

### ***Poirier Accepts Compliance Position***



**Jeffrey S. Poirier, R.Ph., MBA**, recently joined the staff as Compliance Investigator for the Board of Pharmacy. As past Vice President of Operations of the Management and Consulting Department for Maxor National Pharmacy Services Corporation, Jeff brings many skills to this position including administrative experience

in hospital, clinic, prison, home infusion, mail-order, PBM and managed care pharmacy settings.

As Quality Improvement Team Leader for New England Life Care Home Infusion, Mr. Poirier led a multi-discipline team that developed critical programs such as the communication task force and error reduction program that assisted in achieving JCAHO compliance.

Jeff earned his B.S. in pharmacy at Northeastern University and an MBA at Southern New Hampshire University.

At home in Weare, NH with his wife, 2 sons and a daughter, Jeff enjoys fishing, hunting, hiking, camping, landscaping, and the restoration of old vehicles. He also coaches T-Ball (ages 6-7) and is assistant coach (ages 8-9) for the Weare Athletic Club.

Welcome, Jeff!

### ***Bowersox Appointed to PTCB Stakeholder Policy Council***

Board Member and Treasurer, **George Bowersox, R.Ph.** was recently nominated and appointed to the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board (PTCB) Advisory Council. The purpose of the

Council is to develop policy and make recommendations to the Board of Governors regarding PTCB's direction.

The Stakeholder Policy Council is composed of involved, knowledgeable, experienced, stakeholders representing diverse practice settings, geographic locations, major employers, state boards of pharmacy and technician educators.

Nationally, over 170,000 pharmacy technicians have been certified by the PTCB since 1995. The goal of the PTCB national certification program is to enable pharmacy technicians to work more efficiently and effectively in order to allow the pharmacist more time with patient care and counseling. PTCB certification is included in regulations by 22 state boards of pharmacy.

### ***NH Child Fatality Review Committee***

Representing the Board of Pharmacy, **George Bowersox, R.Ph.** and **Paul Boisseau, R.Ph.** recently accepted an invitation to serve on the NH Child Fatality Review Committee. The Committee's mission is to reduce preventable child fatalities through systemic multidisciplinary reviews of child deaths in NH. Cases are selected and reviewed using a confidential case review protocol. The Committee provides a periodic summary report of specific findings to the Governor and other relevant individuals and agencies.

The Committee membership is made up of representatives from the medical, public health, education, law enforcement and advocacy fields.

### ***Faxing of Controlled Drug Prescriptions***

*By Peter A. Grasso, Chief Compliance Investigator*

Over the past few months Compliance staff have noted a significant increase in the number of faxed controlled drug prescriptions that do not meet the legal requirements of a valid prescription order.

To begin with, I would like to call your attention to 21 CFR 1306.21 (c), which is the section of the federal law addressing facsimile Schedule III, IV and V prescriptions. Facsimiles are “copies” or duplications of a prescription and this section specifically refers to that of a “written prescription”. In order for the prescription, for a controlled drug, to be valid it must contain ALL of the elements required under 21 CFR 1306.05 (a). Specifically identified in this section are the **full name** and **address** of the patient but more important is the signature of the prescriber.

In reviewing the state statute, RSA 318-B: 9 III (h), please note that this law requires that the “practitioner shall sign the prescription in ink on the date of issuance”.

Neither of these regulations makes provisions for office personnel to use a rubber stamp, nor does it allow the prescriber to FAX the order to the pharmacy without any signature affixed. Also, there are no provisions within the law for the prescriber to use any form of “electronic signature”.

We expect the pharmacist to recognize the required elements and not fill any prescription that fails to meet the minimum requirement. Unfortunately, this has not been the case and we have noted more than a fair number of pharmacies have been continuing to fill these prescription orders. In some cases, this has been brought to the attention of the Compliance officers which resulted in a visit to the prescriber’s office in order to provide the appropriate education to the office staff. However, given our limited staff time, we would anticipate and appreciate the

initiative of the pharmacist to intervene and provide this information to the prescribers as they encounter these situations.

In the interim, Compliance warns against providing controlled substances to patients pursuant to FAX prescription orders that do not meet the requirements, especially that of the prescriber's signature.

### ***Golden Years Recognized***

Every year the Board of Pharmacy has the distinct pleasure of recognizing those pharmacists who have been licensed in New Hampshire for 50-years.

This year we have four pharmacists who have provided outstanding service and dedication to the profession of pharmacy and the citizens of this State:

**Gerard J. Horn, R.Ph.**  
Laconia, NH

**Donald R. Palmer, R.Ph.**  
North Hampton, NH

**Norman E. Rhodes, Jr., R.Ph.**  
Bow, NH

**Bradley Whitney, R.Ph.**  
Nashua, NH

A formal presentation of the "Gold Certificates" will be celebrated at the reception on December 8, 2004.

### ***Licensee/Registrant Statistics***

*As of 5/28/2004*

#### **Pharmacists**

**Total Pharmacist Licensed in New Hampshire for 2004      ⇒      1,963**

#### ***By Residence***

- *Living In-State*      ⇒      988

- *Living Out-Of-State* ⇒      975

**By Gender**

- Male	⇒	1,113
- Female	⇒	850

**By Age**

- Less Than 30Years Old	⇒	169
- 30-39Years Old	⇒	534
- 40-49Years Old	⇒	621
- 50-59Years Old	⇒	457
- 60 Years Old And Above	⇒	182

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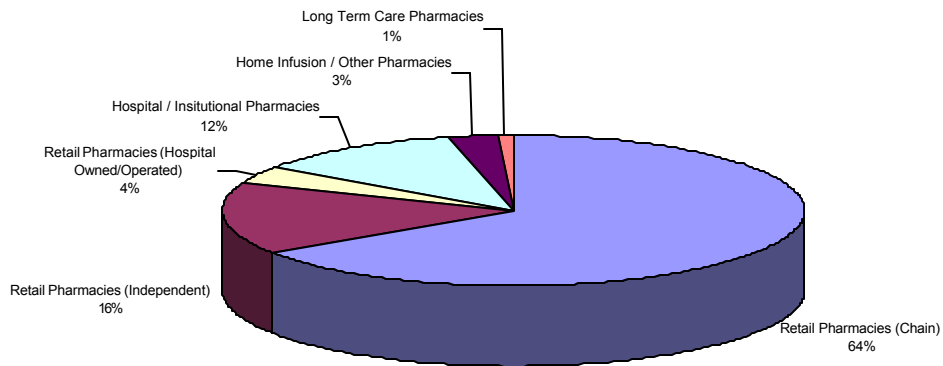
**Pharmacies (In-State)**

**Total** In-State Pharmacies Licensed in New Hampshire for 2004 ⇒ **275**

**By Specialty**

- Retail Pharmacies (Chain)	⇒	180
- Retail Pharmacies (Independent)	⇒	43
- Retail Pharmacies (Hospital Owned/Operated)	⇒	10
- Hospital/Institutional Pharmacies	⇒	32
- Home Infusion / Other Pharmacies	⇒	8
- Long-Term Care Pharmacies	⇒	2

**NH Pharmacy Specialties**



### ***Number Of Retail Pharmacies By Chain / Owner***

***Total Number Of Retail Pharmacies In New Hampshire***    **Ⓐ     233**

#### ***By Chain / Owner***

		<i>Number of Stores</i>	<i>% of Retail Market</i>
- Rite Aid	⇒	39	17%
- Brooks	⇒	37	16%
- Wal-Mart	⇒	24	10%
- CVS	⇒	21	9%
- Hannaford	⇒	18	9%
- Shaw's	⇒	15	6%
- Walgreens	⇒	10	4%
- Target	⇒	5	2%
- All Other Retail Chain Pharmacies	⇒	11	5%
- Independently Owned Retail Pharmacies	⇒	43	18%
- Hospital Owned/Operated Retail Pharmacies	⇒	10	4%

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### **Pharmaceutical Manufacturers/Wholesalers/Distributors**

***Total Number Licensed By Board***    **Ⓐ     616**

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### **NH Public Health Clinics**

***Total Number Licensed By Board***    **Ⓐ     32**

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### **Pharmacy Technicians**

***Total Number Registered By Board***    **Ⓐ     1,756**

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### **Mail-Order/Internet/Non-Resident Pharmacies**

***Total Number Registered By Board***    **Ⓐ     276**